

Samson Receives Strength From God

Judges 15:9-16; 16:4-30

IN THIS ISSUE: Donkey's Jawbone, Delilah, Seven Braids, and more! Serving Lehi, Rock of Etam, Judah and surrounding areas cover story



BIBLE STORY (THE BASICS)

God chose Samson to fight for Israel and to deliver the Israelites from the Philistines. God had given Samson incredible strength to do this.

But a woman named Delilah, who was a Philistine, tried to find out the secret to Samson's strength. Samson was smart. He wouldn't tell her. So every time she tried to trick him so the Philistines could capture him, Samson defeated them.

However, one day Delilah finally convinced Samson to tell her his secret: If he shaved his head, he would lose his strength. So when Samson fell asleep, Delilah called someone to come shave off Samson's hair.

Then when the Philistines tried to capture him, Samson couldn't fight. So the Philistines were very cruel to him. They gouged out Samson's eyes and threw him in prison.

But Samson's hair started to grow back. Later the Philistines called for Samson to come out and perform for them. Samson prayed and asked God to give him strength one more time. God answered Samson's prayer. Samson pushed on the pillars of the temple and caused it to fall down. **Bible Point:** God gives us gifts to serve him.

Key Verse: "Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms" (1 Peter 4:10).



FAMILY FUN Affirming Gifts

As a family, play Charades one night. Gather the family, and give each member a small piece of paper to use for each of the other

family members. For example, if you have four family members, give each member three pieces of paper. Instruct each family member to write on each paper a gift or ability for one person, place the person's name on the paper, fold it in half, and place it in a large bowl. Help younger children by writing their answers for them. Start with the oldest person in your family. Have him or her choose a piece of paper from the bowl and then act out the talent or ability. The rest of the family members will guess what the ability is and who in their family has that talent. The person with that talent will continue the game until everyone has had a turn to play.

At the end of the game, have everyone take back the papers he or she has written. Take turns reading your papers to each person in your family, and affirm him or her for the gifts and abilities that God will use to serve and honor him.



This week kids committed to praying about how God can help them use their gifts to serve him and others

(instead of choosing Daily Challenges). Help your child weave faith into life this week and follow through on his or her commitment!

THE WORD FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY Romans 12:6-8

How does God want us to use our gifts?

TUESDAY 1 Corinthians 1:7

Would God forget to give you the gifts you need? Why or why not?

WEDNESDAY 1 Timothy 4:14

Timothy was told not to neglect (or ignore) his gift. Do you think God would tell you the same thing? Why or why not?

THURSDAY James 1:17

Why do you think God has promised not to take his good and perfect gifts away from us?

FRIDAY 1 Peter 4:11

What happens when we use our gifts the way God wants us to?

SATURDAY Romans 11:29

Why wouldn't God ever take away a gift he has given us?

PARENT STUMPER

Q: Where was Delilah from?

A: the Valley of Sorek



